

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

1. [] and I met with Dr. Tamara Launags on 29 April 1959.

Dr. Launags is the wife of an FOB contract agent. She and the two Launags' children are presently living in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where she is engaged in dental practice. Dr. Launags had expressed a desire to meet with her husband's "boss" prior to her deciding whether or not she should join her husband in Germany. It is not exactly clear ~~in~~ what Dr. Launags expected to accomplish by meeting with us but I suspect that it was prompted by (1) a hope that we would arrange for her employment as a civilian dentist ~~in~~ with the US Army in Germany and (2) her interest in finding out what is in store for her husband insofar as his future employment security is concerned.

2. ~~Dr. Launags~~ [] explained to Dr. Launags that we could not offer assistance to effect her employment and that she would have to look into the possibilities herself after she arrives in Germany, should she decide to go. []

[] told her that he hoped that this did not sound too blunt but that he wanted to be frank with her. I believe that Dr. Launags was more than a bit disappointed by this but she indicated that she appreciated the honesty of the statements. She also indicated that she does not consider it too important that she establish herself professionally in Germany and feels that the really important thing is to know what the future holds in store for her husband as far as employment is concerned. She considers it absolutely essential that her husband establish some firm roots on which they can plan their future—both for their sake and that of their children. She thinks it absolutely senseless for her husband to go on living a "day to day" existence on Cloud Number 9—an existence to which her husband is seemingly not averse. She characterized him as a happy-go-lucky individual who never thinks of tomorrow while she is a down to earth type who faces realities; ~~in fact~~ she said she might even be considered a worry wart. [] explained to Dr. Launags that the terms of her husband's contract covered a two year period with a possibility for a two year extension—this extension being contingent upon a number of factors. Beyond that, there did not appear to be any concrete plans for his future. Dr. Launags stated that her husband had some drawing talents and a short discussion ensued on the possibility of him going to school of drafting and design to develop this talent for his future gainful employment. I feel that the news of the more or less temporary nature of her husband's work in Germany was quite disturbing to Dr. Launags and it was evident that he had never filled her in on this aspect.

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3. I have the impression that Dr. Launags is ^{opposed} ~~averse~~ to the idea of pulling up stakes and going to Germany in spite of her constantly stressing that her husband's happiness is the thing that really counts. She repeatedly stated that she is concerned over what might happen to him and her veiled references to his having a nervous break down, running off with another woman, etc. indicates to me that she is, on one hand, thinking in terms of the "worst possible" and, on the other hand, thinking in terms of her being sort of a ~~martyr~~ ^{professional} martyr who would have a disgraceful blot on her record if she became a mere housewife during the time she would be in Germany. I attempted to dissuade her from thinking that it ~~would~~ ^{be} blot in her record, professionally or otherwise, should she take up the noble art of being a housewife. On this occasion, and in several other instances, she looked at me and said "You are a wise one" (Note: I wish I could be equally as convinced of my wisdom). If nothing else is clear, one thing is and that is that the Launags' personal and marital life is in pretty sad shape. My guess is that it is one of those situations ~~where~~ where "she can't live with him and can't live without him" The same attitude seemingly exists on his part. Dr. Launags read me a sentence, in Latvian, from a letter she had received from her husband the day before. She then gave me the English translation of it which was "I miss you so much. It is just as miserable as though you were here". Dr. Launags discussed her marriage with me on a quite personal level. I tried to divert the conversation to other topics without acting disinterested but she kept reverting to it and became quite emotional about it. ~~Recommendations about her case should be made by a political officer~~ ~~At this point, I suggested to her that perhaps consulting with a marriage~~ ~~councillor might be advisable.~~ Dr. Launags told me that her husband would not consent to such a thing and would view it as part of a plot designed by her ~~is~~ for purely selfish reasons.

4. I told Dr. Launags I would do all possible to assist her should she make up her mind to go to Germany and this would include arranging for her medical examination, shots, ~~proceeding~~ arranging her transportation, moving and storage of her furniture, etc. She is to write to me, using a letter box, as soon as she comes to a decision. I reimbursed her for her train fare, had dinner with her and took her to Union Station. I believe she enjoyed meeting with ☐ ☐ and me but the situation remains confused.

*Warning situation
I suggested
a counsellor
Dr. Launags
he decided
to leave for
Germany*

☐ ☐